Docket No.: M0025.0343/P343

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 13-27 are pending in the present application. Claims 9-12 have been canceled. Claims 25-27 have been added. Claims 3, 7, 16 and 18-20 have been amended to eliminate multiple dependencies.

A prompt examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Dated: December 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen A. Soffen

Registration No.: 31,063

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN &

OSHINSKY LLP

2101 L Street NW

Washington, DC 20037-1526

(202) 785-9700

Attorney for Applicant